WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Apparatus for incremental printing of an image; said apparatus comprising:

means for addressing a region of the image at less than full (100%) coverage;

means for adding further colorant quanta to selected pixels already receiving said colorant as part of the less-than-full coverage within the region;

whereby, within the region, the amount of the colorant printed in some pixels is zero, in others is a first nonzero number of colorant quanta, and in still others is a second nonzero number of colorant quanta;

wherein the first nonzero number is different from the first nonzero number; and

means for printing the image including the region with the added further quanta.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the adding means further comprise:

means for establishing a ratio of number of added-colorant pixels to total number of addressed pixels; and

means for setting the ratio to a value below one-half.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein:

the setting means comprise means for setting the ratio to a value between 0.15 and 0.4 inclusive.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein:

the setting means comprise means for accepting a human operator manual selection to trade off banding robustness against granularity.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein:

the accepting means comprise means for expressly presenting to the operator some indicia of the tradeoff.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the indicating means comprise a human-readable scale that indicates:

increasing banding robustness in one direction, and

decreasing granularity in an opposite direction

or equivalent.

7. A method for reducing band effects in incremental printing of an image; said method comprising the steps of:

printing a region of the image at less than full (100%) coverage; and

in order to compensate for colorant-placement error, adding further colorant quanta to selected pixels already receiving colorant as part of the less-than-full coverage within the region;

whereby, within the region, the amount of colorant printed in some pixels is zero, in others is a first nonzero number of colorant quanta, and in still others is a second nonzero number of colorant quanta;

wherein the second nonzero number is different from the first nonzero number.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein:

said full coverage is approximately one colorant quantum per printer pixel, on-average.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein: Fig 2a.

each colorant quantum forms in the printed image a roughly circular dot of diameter approximately equal to the length of a diagonal across a single printer pixel.

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10. The method of claim 7, wherein:

said full coverage is approximately one-half colorant quantum per printer pixel, on-average.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein:

each colorant quantum forms in the printed image a roughly circular dot of diameter substantially equal to twice the height or twice the width of a single printer pixel.

12. The method of claim 7, wherein:

said full coverage is between one-half and one colorant quanta per printer pixel, on-average.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein:

each colorant quantum forms in the printed image a roughly circular dot of diameter between one-half and one times the height or between one-half and one times the width of a single printer pixel.

14. The method of claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

in another region of the image, printing an area fill at less than double (200%) coverage; and

within said other region, adding further colorant to selected pixels already receiving colorant as part of the area fill.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein:

said double coverage is approximately two colorant quanta per printer pixel, on-average.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein:

each colorant quantum forms in the printed image a roughly circular dot of diameter approximately equal to the length of a diagonal across a single printer pixel.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein:

said double coverage is approximately one colorant quanta per printer pixel, on-average.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein:

each colorant quantum forms in the printed image a roughly circular dot of diameter substantially equal to twice the height or twice the width of a single printer pixel.

19. The method of claim 14, wherein:

said double coverage is between one and two colorant quanta per printer pixel, on-average.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein:

each colorant quantum forms in the printed image a roughly circular dot of diameter between one and two times the height or between one and two times the width of a single printer pixel.

21. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:

at least approximately maintaining a particular ratio between said still other pixels and said pixels receiving colorant as part of the less-than-full coverage within the region.

22. A method of adding colorant in a region to which colorant is already addressed, in incremental printing of an image; said method comprising the steps of:

automatically establishing a ratio of number of added-colorant pixels to total number of addressed pixels;

setting the ratio to a value below one-half; and

automatically printing a region of the image with said added-colorant pixels included at said ratio.

23. The method of claim 10, wherein:

the setting step comprises setting the ratio to a value between 0.15 and 0.4 inclusive.

24. The method of claim 11, wherein:

the setting step comprises a human operator selection to trade off banding robustness against granularity.

25. The method of claim 12, wherein:

the setting step comprises a human operator selection on a scale that expressly indicates:

increasing banding robustness in one direction, and

decreasing granularity in an opposite direction,

or equivalent.

26. The method of claim 10, wherein:

the setting step comprises a human operator selection on a scale that expressly indicates:

increasing banding robustness in one direction, and

decreasing granularity in an opposite direction

or equivalent.

27. A method of adding colorant in a region to which colorant is already addressed, in incremental printing of an image; said method comprising the steps of:

automatically adding colorant by employing a superpixel that is very insensitive to characteristics of dot placement error; and

automatically printing a region of the image with said added colorant.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein:

the superpixel is intermediate in characteristics between:

[1 0; 0 1],

[2 0; 0 0].

29. The method of claim 27, wherein the superpixel is selected from the group consisting of:

[2 0; 0 2],

[1 0; 1 0],

[1 1; 0 0],

[0 0; 1 1],

[0 1; 0 1].

30. A method of incremental printing of an image by construction from individual colorant quanta addressed to pixels of a printing grid; said method comprising the steps of:

for substantially all tonal levels in a range extending at least from highlight regions to midtones:

automatically addressing a first number of colorant quanta to some pixels; and

automatically addressing a second number of colorant quanta to other pixels, said second number being larger than said first number; and

automatically printing a region of the image with said added colorant.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein:

said range extends at least from ten percent area fill through forty percent area fill.

32. The method of claim 30, wherein:

said other pixels are selected substantially at random from among said some pixels.